

2892

Judith Pachter Schulder
State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and Licensure
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA. 17105-2649

Ms. Pachter Schulder:

As an Occupational Therapist licensed to practice in Pennsylvania I support the proposed OT Guidelines for Continuing Competency Requirements to maintain licensure. My only concern is regarding the requirement for six contact hours outside of continuing education. I feel that this will create a hardship for myself and many of my colleagues' since our practice arena may be limited and not a typical setting conducive to students, or there aren't always student who live or go to school in the areas where we work. This includes those of who work in a casual or part time status or in a management position since these usually limit our options to serve as a clinical instructor or mentor. Most of us are also not in a position to serve in any form of publishing/presentations. New Graduates are not immediately eligible to take students which will severely limit their options.

While I think that these other areas are fine to include as options for our requirements, I am strongly opposed to them being required. I would prefer to see POTA follow the current setup that NBCOT follows by giving us a broader list of options so that we can further our education/skills as we see fit to best support our current job and practice areas. I do not feel that the other areas in question will insure "continued competency".

Continuing education is a must and I fully agree, as we already have with the requirements for the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. A choice of avenues not a mandate would be better accepted.

Sincerely,

Jessica Collini, OTR/L

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2011 MAY -4 A 10:33

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Karen Patricia Smith OTR/L



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Sincerely,

Donald Booker, COTA/L

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Stacy Stefanik, COTA/L



COTA/L

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